

WØMTL - Mark Twain Land Area News — WØKEM

JULY, 2009

AMATEUR RADIO



Warm, Sunny Days Ahead!!

**PRAISE GOD FOR HIS BOUNTIFUL GIFTS IN
THIS LAND OF PLENTY; OUR RENEWAL OF
SEASONS, AND REMEMBER OUR COUNTRY IS
THE BEST, AND WE NEED TO PRAY FOR OUR
COUNTRY, OUR SOLDIERS, OUR LEADERS,
AND OURSELVES!!**

HARC OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT: HOWARD BARNES, KØDFW
V-PRES: J.D. SINCLAIR, WØAJD
SECRETARY: FRED MILLER, KBØWIL
TREASURER: TONY GILLILAND, WØPGL
TRUSTEE: CLIFF AHRENS, KØCA
EDITOR: BONNIE SINCLAIR, WBØWAP**

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday
JULY 8, at 7:30 PM**

Regular Meetings are held at Beth Haven Nursing Home, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, Mo.
Enter at the main entrance; turn left through the lounge area to the elevator. Take the elevator down to the first floor, and go to your right/left around the corner, down the hall to the cafeteria.

**FCC VE TEST DATES FOR YEAR OF 2009
Hannibal, MO ARC 2009 Exam Dates**

Wednesday, July 8, 2009 - 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 14, 2009 - 8:30 p.m.

Exams will take place at 8:30 PM after the regular scheduled HARC meeting. The exam session will be at the Beth Haven Nursing Home, in the Cafeteria on the 1st (lower) Floor, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, MO. Registration is required at least 72 hours before the exam session by contacting the team liaison, Fred Miller- KBØWIL at kb0wil@arrl.net or 573-221-2429.

The 2009 test fee will be \$15.00. It goes to ARRL/VEC. Bring a photo ID (or two non-photo ID's); if currently licensed, bring the original and a photocopy of your valid FCC license; and if you are claiming credit for successful completion of an exam, bring the original and photocopy of any applicable CSCE's.



Remember this is your club!! Be sure to participate in all of the upcoming yearly activities, Field Day, August picnic, and monthly meetings. Let's have fun with friends, and with an interesting & fun hobby. Watch our web-site, check in on Monday Night Net (146.625) at 8PM, show up every 2nd Wednesday of the month for meetings, and use those very special radios, and talent that you all have. Not everyone can learn how to properly use Amateur radios, and who knows, some day 'You may be needed to save some very important lives.' Have another great month!



HUGS

WBØWAP

HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MINUTES



Minutes of the meeting recorded by:
Fred-KBØWIL...HARC Secretary...

Date: June 10th, 2009

Location: Beth Haven Nursing Home 2500
Pleasant St. Hannibal, Mo 63401

Meeting called to order by: Howie-KØDFW

Approval of minutes in newsletter:

Date of previous meeting: May 13th, 2009

Motion to approve: Jack-WD9CHG

Seconded by: Ann-KB9BAL

Treasurers report: Tony-WØPGL



Cash-\$1,111.54 CD-\$1,274.02 Total-\$2,385.02

Repeater report: Fred-KBØWIL

The 146.625 repeater is sounding great, we have occasional noise on the 146.880 repeater caused by the paging service.



Come and help us to set up and stay and enjoy the fun!!

Field Day: June 27-28, 2009 (4A-MO)

Field Day is June 27th-June 28th, in Huckleberry Park, Hannibal Mo. We discussed Field Day in more detail at this months meeting. We are planning on having (4) stations on the air, 2-SSB Stations, 1-CW Station, and 1 -Digital Station. We discussed the, radios being used, antennas, coax, power supplies, etc. We will be using Tr-Log software in the lap tops, for all the logging. Fred-KBØWIL is in charge of securing the pavilion in Huckleberry Park.

Click on this link below, to find the WØKEM Field Day Locator or any other Field Day site.

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>



HARC Barbeque Saturday August 1ST, 2009: 5:00PM !!!

We will have our annual club barbeque on Saturday August 1st, 2009. It will be at Huckleberry Park Pavilion. Fred-KBØWIL will take care of the reservations for the pavilion. The club will provide, Pork Chops, Hamburgers, and Hot Dogs. We will

also bring Raspberry Tea to drink. Everyone is to bring their own silverware/plates, and a carry in of a food dish of some type. We will start to eat approximately 5:00 PM. This barbeque is for HARC members and their guests only.

Note: The Quincy hamfest is on Saturday August 8th, 2009.

***Tonight's program:** Sherry Nelson with Citizen Corp, is going to set up an information table at this year's Field Day. We discussed making signage for the HARC and Citizen Corp to display at the Huckleberry Park entrance.

VE-Testing:

We will be giving VE Testing at next month's meeting, on July 8th, 2009. Contact Fred-KBØWIL if you wish to take an exam. The exam session will start right after the club's meeting.

Total members: 18

Total guests: 3

Total in attendance: 21

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

JULY 2009

HOWARD BARNES KØDFW



2008 Field Day Photo

Well, guess what?? Howie is asleep on the job. He is catching up on his sleep so he can be ready for Field Day this weekend. ☺

Really, Howie has been having trouble with his internet service, and so in order to get the newsletter out before Field Day, you will have to go out to Field Day on Saturday at the Huckleberry Park and talk with him, to hear what he has to say!

See Fred's instructions in his minutes above and it will tell you all the details about Field Day, and we hope to see you all there. WBØWAP

SILENT KEY:

Frank Barnes K0UBR, passed away early this past month. Frank had been an amateur operator for many years, and also a member of the HARC. We extend our sympathy to all of his family and friends.



DX Horizons

July 2009

by Cliff Ahrens K0CA

The ARRL Field Day is just around the corner. Held every year the fourth full weekend of June, this year's running is Saturday and Sunday, June 27-28. Both the Hannibal and Quincy clubs will be on the air. The Hannibal ARC will be operating as WØKEM from the main pavilion at Huckleberry Park, on U.S. Highway 61 South in Hannibal. The Western Illinois ARC will be on the air signing W9AWE from the Adams County Regional Training Center, at the Quincy University North Campus, on North 18th Street in Quincy. Putting on Field Day is lots of fun, but many volunteers are needed for setup, operating, preparing and serving meals, mentoring new operators, meeting and explaining ham radio to visitors, and tear down of the stations. And it's also a great time to enjoy the outdoors and visit in person with your amateur radio friends. Come on out and help the Quincy and Hannibal club Field Day efforts. See you at Field Day.

The big DX news for the month of July is a major DXpedition to the ultra-rare entity of FR/G Glorioso, which should be on the air from July 9 to 28. Postponed several times the last several years, it appears that this operation is now on track for July 2009, using the callsign FT5GA. It's currently in the top 5 on the Most Wanted List. For current updates and more information, see <http://glorieuses2008.free.fr/index-e.htm>.

For you low-band enthusiasts, here's a good resource for one factor that affects QRN. This free web site shows recent lightning activity across the continental United States: <http://thunderstorm.vaisala.com/explorer.html> The graphic display shows lightning activity over a two-hour period. The fewer the lightning strikes, the less noise there is on 160 meters. This summer, there have been many times where 100,000 or more strikes have been reported and the low bands have been very noisy. On some winter evenings, there are no reported lightning strikes, which greatly reduces the noise on the low bands.

The last year or two, DXers have been patiently awaiting return of sunspot activity, and a corresponding increase of DX activity, particularly on 10, 12, and 15 meters. Some scientists and DXers have expressed concern that the slow climb out of the solar minimum may indicate another Maunder Minimum like what happened in the 17th century. Now there is some encouraging news. Fred, KB0WIL forwarded a link to an interesting story on the NASA's web site. Apparently there is a solar jet stream moving from the sun's poles toward its equator. When the jet stream reaches a critical latitude, new sunspots begin to appear. NASA scientists say that the jet stream is now reaching that level where new sunspots are beginning to emerge. This could mean good things for the deserving over the next few years. The NASA article is at:

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/17jun_jetstream.htm?list179936

Fred, thanks for sharing this information.

That's it for this month. Don't forget to check the latest DX news in the daily and weekly DX bulletins.

73 and good DX, Cliff K0CA

Received this email from Fred, KB0WIL, and thought it would be good to share with club members.

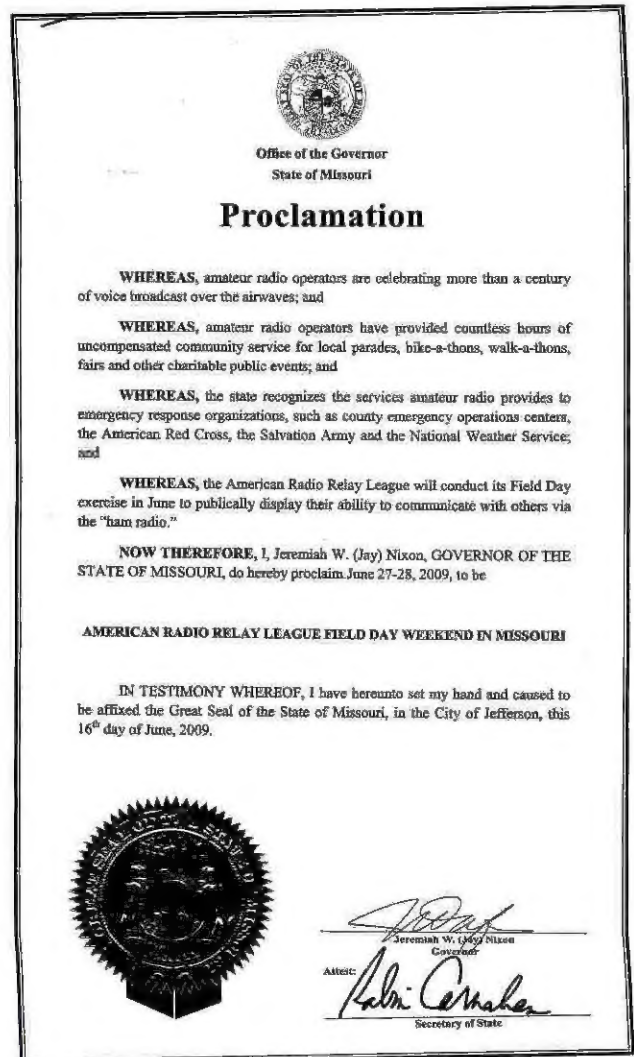
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I received an email this morning from the Governor's Office, State of Missouri, issuing a proclamation in support of **Amateur Radio Week this week and Field Day** this coming weekend.

Please see attached and please feel free to distribute to others.

Ron Lowrance, K4SX
President and Trustee
Missouri DX/Contest Club

Governor of Missouri Proclamation



**COME JOIN THE
REDNECK RETREAT GET-TOGETHER
AUGUST 9, 2009**



2008 PICTURE



2008 PICTURE

Phone # 217-335-2472 to let them know you plan on being there.

**HARC MONDAY NIGHT NET
CALL LIST OF VOLUNTEER OPERATORS
JULY 2009**

6	KØDFW	HOWARD
13	N9UPG	BILL
20	KB9VIS	BRIAN
27	KBØWIL	FRED

Thanks to all of you who do this!! We do need more volunteers; if you are able to take one week a month, we would really appreciate it.

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Carol WA9EFV, and Nancy Bartlett are having another great Redneck Retreat Get-Together on August 9, 2009 at their place. All are invited, and welcome to come. Carol says to "Come early and stay late". Bring a covered dish of your choice, and your place settings. Food will be served at NOON. Call them, and let them know if you are going to attend, and for directions to their 'Redneck Retreat'. Carol and Nancy are the 'greatest hosts' and we always have a fun time at this yearly event.

Oh, the food is soooooooooo good!!



OUR MR MONEY BAGS



HARC TREASURER AND VALUED FRIEND

TONY – W0PGL – HIS STORY

My interest in Ham Radio goes back a lot of years. It's been so long that some of the dates might be plus or minus a bit! My interest peaked after I'd been working for the CB&Q Railroad Communications Department for about 4 years. This would be 1956. I learned the code by using a homebrew code practice oscillator and a borrowed receiver. A good friend, W9TKU, now a silent key, gave me the Novice test. My first call was KN0PFY. My first rig was a Halicrafters SX 99 receiver and a homebrew crystal controlled transmitter using a single 6L6. My TR switch was a DPDT porcelain knifeblade switch, manually operated of course.

In those days you were not able to renew a Novice license and it was valid for only one year. When it expired you had to upgrade or cease operation. During that year I was able to work 45 states, and had at least 40 confirmed, unfortunately my cards were lost in a move to Illinois in 1957. Since I was traveling most of the time many of these contacts were made portable using temp. antennas, usually consisting of a configuration using No. 14 ga. Neoprene covered telephone drop wire, lord only knows what the impedance of this would be, however it worked and afforded many hours of pleasure in my off duty time.

I passed my General test shortly before my Novice License expired and since I was living in IL. I was issued a (nine) call, K9RQY. Boy, I was

really on fire now. I could actually "talk" on the Radio. I still had my SX-99 receiver and my boss, W9UA, loaned me a Johnson Pacemaker. Wow, 90 watts. I also purchased a Heathkit twoer kit, which I still have, and a halo antenna and went two meter mobile, with a homebrew power supply.

In 1970 the mega merger occurred between the CB&Q, Northern Pacific, and Great Northern, creating Burlington Northern. I was transferred to St. Paul Mn. and again this required another call change. I was issued W0PGL. I was handed the task of coordinating the construction of a Microwave Communications System on the former Great Northern RR route from St. Paul to Seattle Washington. I was fortunate to have a Ham for a boss, WOMQ now a silent key who saw to it that I had a Kenwood TS-520 and a Hustler Mobile antenna in my company car. We had a schedule about 3 times a week from whatever hilltop I was on at the time.

When that job was completed I became extremely busy and was living in an apartment. I tried several antennas but it just wasn't worth the hassle, TVI etc. so I became inactive.

I retired in 1984 and started consulting for Safetran Systems Co. who sold Signal and Communications equipment to Railroads. My Mother and Stepfather were in poor health so I moved back to Hannibal on New Years Day of 1986. I got to thinking more and more about getting back into Ham Radio but I could not find my original license so I did some inquiring and discovered I was just under the gun on the time limit to renew and would not have to retake the exam. However, I would not be able to retain my W0PGL call sign (silly rule) so I was issued N0HYJ. I had this for quite a while but missed my W0PGL call so I took advantage of the vanity call sign program and got it back.

I met Helen, who at the time owned a restaurant in Frankford, and we were married on the first day of spring, 1997. She was driving to St. Louis to Maryville University on week ends to complete her Bachelors Degree which she had been working on for several years as time permitted so I started working on her to get a license so we could be in Radio contact during

those periods. She studied the code and theory and passed her Novice test which was administered by Carol, W0GQP, now a silent key, and Cliff, K0CA. She started studying the Tech. class manual and became a Tech. plus a couple of months later.

I was a member of the Fox River Radio League in Aurora Il, and the Burlington Northern Amateur Radio Club in St. Paul Mn., prior to becoming a member of the Hannibal Amateur Radio Club. I am proud to have held almost every office in each of these clubs, and have enjoyed my association with all of them tremendously.

That pretty well brings us up to date on my activities, however I would like to say, there are two things I will never forget; one is the VERY FIRST TIME I heard my call sign transmitted as an answer to my CQ, and the other is the many, many great friends that I have accumulated, both past and present, on Ham Radio. 73 and 88's Tony W0PGL

HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

WØKEM & WØMTL

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U.S.A



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